Senate



General Assembly

File No. 155

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 168

Senate, March 26, 2008

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT AMENDING THE EXTENDED WARRANTY STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 42-260 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
- 3 passage):

5

- 4 (d) (1) An extended warranty shall not be issued, sold or offered for
 - sale unless the extended warranty provider is insured under an
- 6 extended warranty reimbursement insurance policy issued by an
- 7 insurer authorized to do business in this state, [or] except that a risk
- 8 retention group, as defined in section 38a-250, shall not issue, sell or
- 9 <u>offer to sell such extended warranty reimbursement insurance policies.</u>
- 10 <u>In lieu of such extended warranty reimbursement policy</u>, the extended
- 11 warranty provider [can] may demonstrate that reserves for claims
- 12 contained in the provider's financial statements are not in excess of
- 13 one-half of a provider's audited net worth. If such reserves are in
- 14 excess of one-half of a provider's net worth, the reserves shall be held
- 15 in trust by an independent trustee and certified annually as adequate

sSB168 File No. 155

- 16 by an actuary.
- 17 (2) The extended warranty reimbursement insurance policy shall
- 18 cover the obligations under the extended warranty sold by the
- 19 extended warranty provider during the period of time that such
- 20 provider's insurance policy is in force.
- 21 Sec. 2. Section 38a-255 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 22 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 23 (a) Any policy issued by a risk retention group shall contain in ten
- 24 point type on the front page and the declaration page, the following
- 25 notice:

26 NOTICE

- 27 This policy is issued by your risk retention group. Your risk retention
- 28 group may not be subject to all of the insurance laws and regulations
- 29 of your state. State insurance insolvency guaranty funds are not
- 30 available for your risk retention group.
- 31 (b) A risk retention group shall not issue, sell or offer to sell
- 32 extended warranty reimbursement insurance policies, as provided in
- 33 <u>subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 42-260, as amended by this</u>
- 34 act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

Section 1	from passage	42-260(d)
Sec. 2	from passage	38a-255

INS Joint Favorable Subst.

sSB168 File No. 155

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill has no fiscal impact on the Department of Insurance. It prohibits risk retention groups from issuing, selling, or offering extended warranty reimbursement insurance policies.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

sSB168 File No. 155

OLR Bill Analysis sSB 168

AN ACT AMENDING THE EXTENDED WARRANTY STATUTES.

SUMMARY:

This bill prohibits a risk retention group (RRG) from issuing, selling, or offering extended warranty reimbursement insurance policies.

A RRG, an entity created under the 1986 federal Liability Risk Retention Act, must be chartered (i.e., licensed) in one U.S. state, which regulates it as a captive insurance company. The RRG may operate nationwide, provided it registers with each state in which it intends to operate. A captive insurer is an insurance company an organization owns that exclusively insures the risks of that organization and its affiliated companies.

An "extended warranty reimbursement insurance policy" is a policy of insurance covering obligations and liabilities that an extended warranty provider incurs under the terms of the extended warranty he or she sold to a buyer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/06/2008)